

**Amendments to the Specification:**

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 1, with the following**

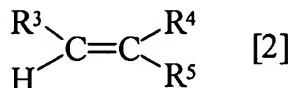
**amended paragraph:**

The aralkyl group represented by R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> may be straight chained, branched or cyclic, and includes the above alkyl groups substituted with the above aryl groups represented by R<sup>2</sup>, one having generally 7 to 34, preferably 7 to 20 and more preferably 7 to 15 carbon atoms, which is specifically exemplified by, for example, a benzyl group, a phenylethyl group, a phenylpropyl group, a phenylbutyl group, a phenylpentyl group, a phenylhexyl group, a phenylheptyl group, a phenyloctyl group, a phenylnonyl group, a phenyldecyl group, a phenylundecyl group, a phenyldodecyl group, a phenyltridecyl group, a phenyltetradecyl group, a phenylpentadecyl group, a phenylhexadecyl group, a phenylheptadecyl group, a phenyloctadecyl group, a phenylnonadecyl group, a phenylicosyl group, a naphthylethyl group, a naphthylpropyl group, a naphthylbutyl group, a naphthylpentyl group, a naphthylhexyl group, a naphthylheptyl group, a naphthyoctyl group, a naphthynonyl group, a naphthyldecyl group, a naphthylundecyl group, a naphthydodecyl group, a naphthyltridecyl group, a naphthyltetradecyl group, a naphthylpentadecyl group, a naphthylhexadecyl group, a naphthylheptadecyl group, a naphthyoctadecyl group, a naphthynonadecyl group, a naphylicosyl group, an anthrylethyl group, an anthrylpropyl group, an anthrylbutyl group, an anthrylpentyl group, an anthrylhexyl group, an anthrylheptyl group, an anthryloctyl group, an anthrylnonyl group, an anthryldecyl group, an anthrylundecyl group, an anthryldodecyl group, an anthryltridecyl group, an anthryltetradecyl group, an anthrylpentadecyl group, an anthrylhexadecyl group, an anthrylheptadecyl group, an anthryloctadecyl group, an anthrylnonadecyl group, an anthrylicosyl group, a phenanthrylethyl group, a phenanthrylpropyl group, a phenanthrylbutyl group, a phenanthrylpentyl group, a phenanthrylhexyl group, a phenanthrylheptyl group, a phenanthryloctyl group, a phenanthrylnonyl group, a phenanthryldecyl group, a phenanthrylundecyl group, a phenanthryldodecyl group, a phenanthryltridecyl group, a phenanthryltetradecyl group, a phenanthrylpentadecyl group, a phenanthrylhexadecyl group, a phenanthrylheptadecyl group, a phenanthryloctadecyl group, a phenanthrylnonadecyl group and a

phenanthrylicosyl group.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:**

The polymer to be used as a carrier is not especially limited as long as it has no adverse effect on deuteration of the present invention, however, specific examples of such a polymer include, for example, one obtained by polymerization or copolymerization of a monomer represented by the following general formula [2]:



wherein  $R^3$  represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyalkyl group, an alkoxy carbonyl group, a hydroxyalkoxycarbonyl group, a cyano group or a formyl group;  $R^4$  represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, a carboxyl group, an alkoxy carbonyl group, a hydroxyalkoxycarbonyl group, a cyano group or a halogen atom;  $R^5$  represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, a haloalkyl group, a hydroxyl group, an aryl group which may have a substituent, an aliphatic heterocyclic group, an aromatic heterocyclic group, a halogen atom, an alkoxy carbonyl group, a hydroxyalkoxycarbonyl group, a sulfo group, a cyano group, a cyano-containing alkyl group, an acyloxy group, a carboxyl group, a carboxyalkyl group, an aldehyde group, an amino group, an aminoalkyl group, a carbamoyl group, a N-alkylcarbamoyl group or a hydroxyalkyl group, and  $R[[^4]]^3$  and  $R[[^5]]^4$  may form an alicyclic ring together with the adjacent  $-C=C-$  bond.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 35, with the following amended paragraph:**

The carboxyalkyl group represented by  $R^3$  and  $R[[^4]]^5$  includes, for example, one wherein a part of hydrogen atoms of the above lower alkyl group is replaced by a carboxyl group, which is specifically exemplified by, for example, a carboxymethyl group, a carboxyethyl group, a carboxypropyl group, a carboxybutyl group, a carboxypentyl group and a carboxyhexyl group.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:**

The aliphatic ring in the case where R[<sup>4</sup>]<sup>3</sup> and R[<sup>5</sup>]<sup>4</sup> are bonded together with the adjacent -C=C- bond to form an alicyclic ring, includes, for example, an unsaturated alicyclic ring having 5 to 10 carbon atoms, and may be monocyclic or polycyclic, which is specifically exemplified by, for example, a norbornene ring, a cyclopentene ring, a cyclohexene ring, a cyclooctene ring and a cyclodecene ring.

**Please amend page 30, line 4 as follows:**

Examples 17 to ~~26-25~~